

United States have the highest life expectancy of any group of elderly people in the world.

This is a very great country if you do your part and we do ours, we're going to be just fine. Let's do that in 1996.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:45 p.m. at the Sheraton New York Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to former Mayor David Dinkins of New York City. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Message on the Observance of the Chinese New Year

February 8, 1996

Warm greetings to everyone observing the Chinese New Year as you welcome 4694, the Year of the Rat.

This ancient annual festival unites people of Chinese heritage across America and around the globe in a joyous celebration of hope and new beginnings. Family and friends gather to renew the bonds of love and to rejoice in the rich cultural traditions of the Chinese people. The sorrows and mistakes of the past year dissolve in a flurry of fireworks, dancing, feasting, and the exchange of gifts.

The Chinese New Year is a fitting occasion for us to reflect on the many contributions that Chinese Americans have brought to our national life—among them a respect for family, a reverence for knowledge, and an unwavering determination to make tomorrow better than today. Let us rejoice together in this season of renewal and resolve to work for a future of harmony and prosperity for us all.

Best wishes for a new year of happiness, health, freedom, and peace.

Bill Clinton

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 16.

Message on the Observance of the Vietnamese Lunar New Year

February 8, 1996

Warm greetings to everyone observing the Vietnamese Lunar New Year as you welcome the Year of the Rat.

This ancient annual festival unites people of Vietnamese heritage across America and around the globe in an exuberant celebration of hope and new beginnings. Family and friends gather to renew the bonds of love and to rejoice in the rich cultural traditions of Vietnam. The joys of the coming year are anticipated with a flurry of fireworks, flowers, decorations, and feasting.

Tet is a fitting occasion for us to reflect on the many gifts that Vietnamese Americans have brought to our national life—among them a reverence for family, an unquenchable optimism, and an unwavering determination to make tomorrow better than today. Let us rejoice together in this season of renewal and resolve to work for a future of harmony and prosperity for us all.

Best wishes for a new year of happiness, health, freedom, and peace.

Bill Clinton

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 16.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

February 10

In the morning, the President traveled to Cedar Rapids, IA, and then to Iowa City. In the afternoon, he traveled to Cedar Rapids and then to Clear Lake, where he toured a grain elevator at the Farmers' Co-op Society.